

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of cleansing a filter, comprising:

passing water from a water source through a filter, thereby producing filtered water;

delivering the filtered water to an end use device;

providing a source of purified water, wherein the purified water has a lower total dissolved solids reading than the water being filtered; and

exposing the filter to the purified water.

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the filter includes a filter cartridge.

Claim 3 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the purified water includes water treated by a reverse osmosis, a steam distillation or a deionization process.

Claim 4 (canceled).

Claim 5 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the purified water has a total dissolved solids reading at least fifty percent less than water being filtered.

Claim 6 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the purified water has a total dissolved solids reading at least eighty percent less than water being filtered.

Claim 7 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the purified water has a total dissolved solids reading at least ninety five percent less than water being filtered.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising; backflushing the filter with the purified water.

Claims 9-35 (canceled).

Claim 36 (currently amended): A method for backflushing a filter, comprising:

- a. flowing water from a water source through a primary flowpath in a filtered flowpath to an end use device, thereby delivering filtered water to the end use device;
- b. providing a source of purified water, wherein the purified water has a lower total dissolved solids reading than the water being filtered;
 - ca. switching an inlet valve, a drain valve, and a flush valve in the a filtered flowpath from the a primary flowpath ~~used for dispensing operations~~ to a secondary flowpath, therein allowing that allows purified water into the filtered flowpath;
 - db. flowing the purified water into the secondary flowpath, wherein the secondary flowpath allows the purified water to flow backwards through the filter for a predetermined interval to remove or dissolve filtered media or unclog a filter in the primary flowpath; and
 - ee. switching the inlet valve, the drain valve, and the flush valve from the secondary flowpath to the primary flowpath to resume ~~dispensing operations~~ the delivery of filtered water to the end use device.

Claim 37 (currently amended): The method for backflushing a filter as recited in claim 36, further comprising:

- d. Repeating steps a.-e. c.-e. to provide a continued cleansing of the filter ~~medium~~.

Claim 38 (original): The method of claim 36, wherein the purified water includes water treated by a reverse osmosis, a steam distillation or a deionization process.

Claim 39 (canceled).

Claim 40 (original): The method of claim 36, wherein the purified water has a total dissolved solids reading at least fifty percent less than water being filtered.

Claim 41(original): The method according to claim 36, wherein the purified water has a total dissolved solids reading at least eighty percent less than water being filtered.

Claim 42 (original): The method of claim 36, wherein the purified water has a total dissolved solids reading at least ninety five percent less than water being filtered.